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EXAMINER

SALL, EL HADJI MALICK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/940,200	Applicant(s) SIMPSON ET AL.	
	Examiner El Hadji M. Sall	Art Unit 2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 48-50 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the correspondence filed on December 5, 2005. Claims 1-21 and 48-50 have been cancelled. Claims 22-47 represent system for automatically recognizing devices connected in a distributed processing environment.

2. *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 22-26, 29-37, 42, 43 and 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Goshey et al. U.S. 6,327,613.

Goshey teaches the invention as claimed including method and apparatus for sharing peripheral devices over a network.

As to claim 22, Goshey teaches a method, comprising:

discovering devices directly connected to a network that are not directly connected to a computer (column 4, lines 45-50, Goshey discloses when a user wishes to verify which devices it has accessed, it performs a scan of peripheral devices; figure 2C; column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses Once the S/C ScanLan code has been loaded onto individual computers, users of a selected networked computer will then be able to access the peripheral devices connected to other network computers as if the peripheral devices were connected to their local computer (i.e. in figure 2C, the peripheral devices 118, 120 and 121 are connected to computer 112b through adapter 116b, where computer 112d can access them to their network)); and

providing to a user via a network browser a list of at least one device that is available for use on the network, wherein the list comprises at least one link to an available device (figure 3D).

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As to claim 23, Goshey teaches the method of claim 22, wherein discovering devices comprise querying the network with a discovery element to discover devices connected to the network (column 4, line 67 to column 5, line 5, Goshey discloses when a server/client ScanLan code is loaded onto any one of the computers that are networked in FIG. 2A, the code will enable a user of any one of those computers to see and access via full SCSI commands, peripheral devices on other computers).

As to claim 24, Goshey teaches the method of claim 23, further comprising adding the discovered devices to a discovery database (column 6, lines 16-21, Goshey discloses the server/client code is loaded onto the first (server) and second (client) computer).

As to claim 25, Goshey teaches the method of claim 22, further comprising creating a web service for a discovered device that is not a web-enabled device, the web service enabling access and use of the discovered device via the network (column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses the ScanLan code is loaded onto computers 112b and 112d, and are connected to a network which can be a local area network or Internet) .

As to claim 26, Goshey teaches the method of claim 22, wherein providing a list of at least one discovered device comprises providing a list of available

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devices to a user home service that is accessible using the network browser (figure 3D).

As to claim 29, Goshey teaches the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving with the network browser selection of the at least one link that is associated with a particular device (figure 3D)

As to claim 30, Goshey teaches the method of claim 29, further comprising redirecting the network browser to the particular device (figure 3D).

As to claim 31, Goshey teaches the method of claim 30, wherein the particular device comprises a printer that does not comprise an integral server (figure 6, item 606).

As to claim 32, Goshey teaches a device discovery service stored on a Computer-readable medium, the service comprising:

logic configured to discover devices directly connected to a network that are not directly connected to a computer (column 4, lines 45I-50, Goshey discloses when a user wishes to verify which devices it has accessed, it performs a scan of peripheral devices); and

logic configured to provide a user home service accessible with a network browser with a list of at least one discovered device that is available for use on the network (figure 3D)

As to claim 33, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 32, wherein the logic configured to discover devices is configured to discover printers connected to the network (figure 6, item 66).

As to claim 34, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 32, wherein the logic configured to discover devices comprises a discovery element configured to query the network to discover devices connected to the network (column 4, line 67 to column 5, line 5, Goshey discloses when a server/client ScanLan code is loaded onto any one of the computers that are networked in FIG. 2A, the code will enable a user of any one of those computers to see and access via full SCSI commands, peripheral devices on other computers)

As to claim 35, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 34,* wherein the logic configured to discover devices further comprises a discovery database configured to store a list of devices discovered by the discovery element (column 6, lines 16-21, Goshey discloses the server/client code is loaded onto the first (server) and second (client) computer)

As to claim 36, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 32, wherein the logic configured to provide comprises a discovery information provider service (column 4, line 67 to column 5, line 5, Goshey discloses when a server/client ScanLan code is loaded onto any one of the computers that are

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networked in FIG. 2A, the code will enable a user of any one of those computers to see and access via full SCSI commands, peripheral devices on other computers).

As to claim 37, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 36, wherein the discovery information provider service is configured to create web services for discovered devices that are not web-enabled devices, the web services enabling access and use of the discovered devices via a network (column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses the ScanLan code is loaded onto computers 112b and 112d, and are connected to a network which can be a local area network or Internet).

As to claim 42, Goshey teaches a system, comprising:

means for discovering devices on a network that are not directly connected to a computer or to a local network (column 4, lines 45-50, Goshey discloses when a user wishes to verify which devices it has accessed, it performs a scan of peripheral devices; figure 2C; column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses Once the S/C ScanLan code has been loaded onto individual computers, users of a selected networked computer will then be able to access the peripheral devices connected to other network computers as if the peripheral devices were connected to their local computer (i.e. in figure 2C, the peripheral devices 118, 120 and 121 are connected to computer 112b through adapter 116b, where computer 112d can access them to their network));

means for querying the means for discovering to receive a list of discovered devices (column 2, lines 47-58, Goshey discloses the second computer/client computer is send a request to use a peripheral devices over the network);

creating a web service for a discovered device that is not web enabled such that the non-web enabled device can be accessed and used by accessing the created web service via a network browser (figure 3C);

means for creating links to the discovered devices (column 2, lines 63-67, Goshey discloses determining whether the client computer has access privileges to use the first peripheral device); and

means for providing the links to a user in a network browser for selection (figure 3D).

As to claim 43, Goshey teaches the system of claim 42, wherein the means for discovering comprise means for discovering printers connected to the network (figure 6, item 606).

As to claim 45, Goshey teaches the system of claim 42, further comprising means for creating web services for discovered devices that are not web-enabled devices, the web services enabling access and use of the discovered devices via a network (column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses the ScanLan code is loaded onto computers 112b and 112d, and are connected to a network which can be a local area network or Internet).

As to claim 46, Goshey teaches the system of claim 42: further comprising means for receiving a user selection of a particular device (column 6, lines 63-67, Goshey discloses the first computer or server can grant or deny access privileges to other computers, selected adapters or individual devices that are connected to their host adapters).

As to claim 47, Goshey teaches the system of claim 46, further comprising means for redirecting the user browser to the particular device upon receipt of a user selection (figure 3D).

4. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 27, 28, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over anticipated by Goshey et al. U.S. 6,327,613 in view of Carcerano et al. U.S. 6,308,205.

Goshey teaches the invention substantially as claimed including method and apparatus for sharing peripheral devices over a network.

As to claim 27, Goshey teaches the method of claim 26.

Goshey fails to teach explicitly providing a list of available devices comprises providing a set of universal resource locators (URLs) to the home service, the URLs identifying locations of the available devices.

However, Carcerano teaches browser-based network management allowing administrators to use web browser on user's workstation to view and update configuration of network devices. Carcerano teaches providing a list of available devices comprises providing a set of universal resource locators (URLs) to the home service, the URLs identifying locations of the available devices (column 7, lines 32-37, Carcerano discloses the browser sends a URL-encoded request to the server. The URL request identifies the domain name of the server as well as the location of the file resource on the server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Goshey in view of Carcerano to provide a list of available

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devices comprises providing a set of universal resource locators (URLs) to the home service, the URLs identifying locations of the available devices. One would be motivated to do so to allow defining a route to a file on an HTTP server.

As to claim 28, Goshey teaches the method of claim 27.

Goshey fails to teach explicitly creating the at least one link from the set of URLs using the home service.

However, Carcerano teaches creating the at least one link from the set of URLs using the home service (column 2, lines 42-46, Carcerano discloses a first URL-encoded request is received for a user's workstation. The first request identifies a targeted one of the network devices).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Goshey in view of Carcerano to provide creating the at least one link from the set of URLs using the home service. One would be motivated to do so to allow defining a route to a file on an HTTP server.

As to claim 38, Goshey teaches the device discovery service of claim 32.

Goshey fails to teach explicitly the logic configured to provide comprises logic configured to provide a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identify the locations of the discovered devices.

However, Carcerano teaches the logic configured to provide comprises logic configured to provide a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identify the locations of the discovered devices (column 7, lines 32-37, Carcerano

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discloses the browser sends a URL-encoded request to the server. The URL request identifies the domain name of the server as well as the location of the file resource on the server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Goshey in view of Carcerano to provide the logic configured to provide comprises logic configured to provide a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identify the locations of the discovered devices. One would be motivated to do so to allow defining a route to a file on an HTTP server.

As to claim 39, Goshey teaches a web-based imaging home service stored on a computer-readable medium, the service comprising:

logic configured to query a network to detect a device discovery service (column 4, lines 45-50, Goshey discloses when a user wishes to verify which devices it has accessed, it performs a scan of peripheral devices);

logic configured to create links to the discovered devices (column 2, lines 63-67, Goshey discloses determining whether the client computer has access privileges to use the first peripheral device); and

logic configured to provide the links to a user in the network browser (figure 3D).

Goshey fails to teach explicitly logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service.

However, Carcerano teaches logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service (column 7, lines 32-37, Carcerano discloses the browser sends a URL-encoded request to the server. The URL request identifies the domain name of the server as well as the location of the file resource on the server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Goshey in view of Carcerano to provide logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service, the devices directly connected to the network and not directly connected to a computer. One would be motivated to do so to allow defining a route to a file on an HTTP server.

As to claim 40, Goshey teaches the service of claim 39, further comprising logic configured to receive a user selection of a particular device (column 6, lines 63-67, Goshey discloses the first computer or server can grant or deny access privileges to other computers, selected adapters or individual devices that are connected to their host adapters).

As to claim 41, Goshey teaches the service of claim 40, further comprising logic configured to redirect the user browser to the particular device upon receipt of a user selection (figure 3D).

As to claim 44, Goshey teaches the system of claim 42.

Goshey fails to teach means for querying comprise a web-based imaging home service that is accessible using the network browser.

Carcerano teaches means for querying comprise a web-based imaging home service that is accessible using the network browser (column 1, lines 60-63, Carcerano discloses the invention allows a remote network user to view and update the configuration of network devices by using a web browser on the user's workstation).

6. Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 08/18/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

(A) As to claims 22, 32 and 42, Applicant argues that Goshey does not teach "discovering devices directly connected to a network that are not directly connected to a computer"

In regards to point (A), examiner respectfully disagrees.

Column 5, lines 8-24, Goshey discloses users of a selected networked computer will then be able to access the peripheral devices connected to other network computers as if the peripheral devices were connected to their local computer (i.e. in figure 2C, the peripheral devices 118, 120 and 121 are connected to computer 112b through adapter 116b, where computer 112d can access them to their network). In figure 2C, it is clear that computer peripheral

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devices 118, 120 and 121 directly connected to the network where 112b belongs to the above side of the network, and computer 112d belonging to the below side of the network "is not directly connected" to peripheral devices 118, 120 and 121. In addition, the host adapters between either computer 112b or 112d could be routers, modems, access servers or something similar serving as host adapters to communicate with the peripheral devices in local or remote locations. In this case, the peripheral devices are "connected to the network", but are "not directly connected" to either computers.

(B) Applicant argues that Goshey does not teach explicit limitations of Applicant's claims. In that Carcerano does not remedy the deficiencies of the Goshey reference.

In regards to point (B), examiner respectfully disagrees.

As to claim 39, Goshey fails to teach explicitly logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service.

However, Carcerano teaches logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service (column 7, lines 32-37, Carcerano discloses the browser sends a URL-encoded request to the server. The URL request identifies the domain name of the server as well as the location of the file resource on the server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Goshey in view of Carcerano to provide logic configured to receive a set of universal resource locators (URLs) that identifies the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service, the devices not directly connected to a computer. One would be motivated to do so to allow defining a route to a file on an HTTP server.

Carcerano has remedied the deficiencies of Goshey. Carcerano provides universal resource locators (URL), which is used in combination of Goshey to provide identifying the locations of devices discovered by the device discovery service, the devices not directly connected to a computer.

7. Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be


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calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to El Hadji M Sall whose telephone number is 571-272-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://www.uspto.gov/patent/pair-direct>. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

El Hadji Sall
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2157



ARIO ETIENNE
PRIMARY EXAMINER